Secret C. F. Ohana - Volta Project

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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News story referring unidentified White House source broke September 22 that Volta Project was delayed because of US reaction Ghana's international posture.

Subject Embassy's comments, Department planning make early announcement possibly September 25 that US representatives Governor Williams, Chayes (Legal Adviser) and Walter Sauer, (Exec. VP EXIM) will arrive Accra October 9. Announced purpose will be that, as part of final US review of Volta project, team will satisfy itself RE financial arrangements for carrying out agreement. Such an announcement would not commit US either way, i. e., final signing or not signing. Would also avoid mentioning political issues involved. Actual function of team will include political appraisal with your assistance. Team will make no political representations whatsoever. As far as Ghanaians concerned will discuss only economic matters.

Governor Williams will arrive Accra October 9 and depart October 10. Other team members could stay several more days.

In view above, Department plans notify GOG that signing of Volta agreements will have to be deferred until after return and report this mission.

Embassy's reaction to above including timing announcement and teams arrival requested NIACT.

BOWLES
Acting

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E - Mr. Kerr (In draft)
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